Subscribers are informed that we are engaged in reprinting the back numbers, and as fast as executed, the numbers necessary to complete their sets will be forwarded.

THE FARMERS' CABINET,

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY.

Vol. I. **Philadelphia, December 15, 1836.** **No. 11.**

Published by
MOORE & WATERHOUSE,
No. 67 South Second St. Phila.

J. Van Court, Printer, 48 Market street.

The Cabinet is published on or about the first and fifteenth of each month. Each number will contain 16 octavo pages on good paper and fair type. The subjects will be illustrated by engravings on wood whenever they can be appropriately introduced. TERMS.—*One Dollar per year, payable in advance.* For the accommodation of those who wish to subscribe for six months only, the twelfth number will be accompanied by a title page and index, in order for binding. Any person remitting us five dollars, will be entitled to six copies of the work for one year, or twelve copies for six months. The Cabinet, by the decision of the Post Master General, is subject only to *newspaper postage;* that is, one cent on each number within the state, and within one hundred miles of Philadelphia, out of the state,—one cent and a half on each number to any other part of the United States. Gentlemen disposed to assist the objects of the work, are not only requested to use their influence in promoting its circulation, but also to aid it by their communications. ☞ Six copies for five dollars

THE FARMERS' CABINET.

Rural Industry.

In the establishment of the Farmers' Cabinet, the proprietor had in view the benefit of the agricultural community, and of the public at large. In the outset he was assured, and that too, by gentlemen whose opinion he could not but respect, that it would prove at best a hazardous, if not a loosing concern—that works of similar pretensions had been repeatedly commenced, and as repeatedly failed—and that no work of the kind, could succeed to any great extent. He was determined, however, to make the effort, and so far he has been successful, having found the farmers of the middle and western states disposed to sustain him. Some have lent their hearty co-operation, and many others have promised their assistance. It is true, that the subscription is not as large as we could wish. We are, however, steadily making our way, and we hope to take our stand, before many months, by the side of the most favored and ablest advocates of American husbandry. The publisher would avail himself of this opportunity to say, that gentlemen of acknowledged and deserved reputation as experienced practical agriculturists, have joined him in the publication of the Cabinet—and that no effort shall be with held on the part of its present proprietors to make it in all respects a publication worthy the liberal countenance of the agricultural community.

But in the prosecution of this work, the assistance of intelligent and practical men is needed, and is most respectfully solicited. The great importance of the agricultural art is beginning to be duly appreciated—and in fact it is justly acknowledged to be one of the noblest occupations in which man can engage. But on the advantages, the comforts and enjoyments of a rural life, we need not enlarge. Our design was simply to state the object of the work, and to solicit from gentlemen answers whenever practicable, to all or either of the following inquiries, respecting RURAL INDUSTRY, in the various sections in which they reside. Our object is to obtain all necessary information on these various points, and present the same to our readers, in order that they may be able t compare their present state and practice with that of their brethren in different places. Persons who may be so kind as to furnish us with information on any of the points specified in the following questions are requested to state whether their answers refer to *town-*

ships or *counties*. We wish, as far as possible, that the answers may embrace entire counties.

Question 1. The agricultural productions of the county in general, and what are the principal ones both as to quantity and quality?

2. The best, common, and middling crops of the various kinds of productions?

3. The variations they have experienced in the course of ten or fifteen years, and the probable causes of them?

4. The lowest, middle, and highest prices obtained for the principal productions of agriculture—the alteration of the prices in a period of ten or twelve years, and, when practicable, the causes of such variation?

5. FRUIT TREES.—Their principal species; whether they are in sufficient quantities, not only to supply the district or county, but to afford a branch of trade; what is the probable value of fruit, carried to market.

6. The diseases to which the various fruit trees are liable, and the most approved remedies?

7. The various kinds of vegetables, cultivated both in the fields and gardens. The principal ones as to quantity and quality? What progress has been made within a given period, say ten to fifteen years, in that branch denominated ROOT CULTURE? Is it attended to for the purpose of carrying to market or the feeding of stock?

8. The extent and quality of PASTURES—whether the land is particularly fit for that culture; whether the cultivator exerts all the means rural industry can afford to assist this natural property of the ground; or if sluggishness or ignorance prevail; what is the importance of this culture to the county?

9. CATTLE HUSBANDRY.—The different and most approved breeds. The number of each kind in the county, according to the general received calculations; the increase and decrease for a given time, say ten or fifteen years; are they subject to any diseases peculiar to your region—if so describe the symptoms and the best method of treatment.

10. The prices of the animals, the variations they have experienced in a certain number of years, and the causes of them?

11. What breeds are considered as the most desirable for the dairy; and which possess in the highest degree, fattening properties?

12. The improvements or deterioration which these various kinds have experienced, as to *quality*, from fifteen to twenty years, and the cause of it?

13. The districts in which this culture is prevalent—whatever there is worthy of notice in farms appropriated chiefly to it, with regard either to the number or quality of the animals; in short, every thing relating to this subject?

14. The number of SHEEP; the breed best adapted to the county—the kind most advantageous to the common farmer, on account of the fineness, quantity or quality of the wool, weight of carcass, disposition to fatten, capability of enduring the changes of weather, &c?

15. What is the present state of sheep husbandry in the county?—the probable amount of wool raised yearly, where disposed of generally, and the average price of each quality for a given number of years?

16. The advantageous or disadvantageous measures taken with regard either to the care of the animals themselves, or to the preparation of their produce; the good or bad effects attending them?

17. The culture of INSECTS, the industry of which is useful to mankind, such as SILK WORMS, BEES, &c.

18. The annual produce of that culture, and especially all information connected with the silk business?

19. The various kinds of animals of which the culture is the most important to the county, either on account of their number, qualities, or productions; designate those of which the traffic is the most considerable.

20. The nature of SOIL? Its various qualities, such as argillaceous, calcareous, &c.? Does it vary in different parts of the county?

21. The divisions of the soil with respect

to its fertility into three different classes, the good, the middling, and the bad—the names of the townships in which any of these kinds of soil prevail, and their respective extent?

22. To what sum is the annual produce of a determinate quantity of each of these three sorts of soil rated; the price of each of them; the variations they have experienced in a certain number of years, and the causes of these variations?

23. The mode of culture peculiar to the county, either with respect to the works themselves, or to the husbandman's implements, or other similar objects—the advantages or inconveniences attending it—in what respect is it superior or inferior to that of other counties?

24. The methods of gathering or storing up the varions productions of the soil—whether, considering localities, they are more or less advantageous than those practiced in the adjoining districts?

25. The number of square miles or acres which, according to the most probable calculation, is devoted to agriculture in general, and to its various branches in particular, such as the different kinds of grain raised, the average quantity of each, and the yield per acre?

26. The sections in which rural industry in general, or any of its branches, is the most flourishing—whether the kind of culture most in use is the best adapted to the nature of the soil, and other localities—and whether from this happy distribution the whole county exhibits, as it were, an elegant and well understood picture of rural industry?

27. The probable extent of uncultivated ground—that of marshes—the obstacles to the cultivating of the former, and to the draining of the latter?

28. Whether the lands in general are equally well cultivated; or whether the ingenuity and skill of the cultivator appears only in some kinds of culture? What are the respective causes of these two cases?

29. Whether there exists agricultural societies for the purpose of improving rural economy in general; when and how organized? names and residence of the officers—what measures have been taken by said societies to encourage the study of rural economy; the means they employ to promote experiments; and what have been in the course of time the effects of this zeal?

30. The obstacles to agriculture and rural economy in general; the causes they proceed rom, and the best means to remove or conquer them?

31. The most striking historical facts with regard to the introduction, improvement, neglect, success, or failing of the various branches of rural industry, and all the variations they have experienced.

Notice to Farmers, Graziers, &c.

The publishers of the Farmers' Cabinet are extremely desirous of obtaining correct information upon the following points, from various parts of the country, and at as early a day as may suit the convenience of correspondents: Answers to the enquiries, with the name and address of the person who transmits them, and the section of country to which they refer, may be sent by mail or otherwise, directed to the publishers of the Cabinet, No. 67 South Second street, Philadelphia, the receipt of which will be duly acknowledged and appreciated.

Cattle.

The prevalent Breed—The attempts at Improving and Crossing, and their success—Comparative Value as Milkers, or for the Butcher—How far used in Husbandry labor—Diseases, generally—Causes and Treatment:——particularly, Redwater——Blain—Blood—Hoose—Diarrhœa—Dropping after Calving—The supposed Causes of each, and Treatment.

Sheep.

Breed—Crosses—Value, as it regards Wool or Flesh—Diseases generally:—particularly, Rot—here most especially—Sturdy, or Hydatids—Kind of Sheep most affected—Origin of the Disease—Foot Rot, and whether infectious—Scab.

Swine.

Breed—In what Valuable—Diseases and Treatment.

East Indies—Triumph of the American Plough.

MATCH BETWEEN AN AMERICAN AND DECCAN PLOUGH.

In the early part of the present year, Mr. Ashburner placed at the disposal of Col. Williamson, of Bombay, two American ploughs; they were forwarded by the latter gentleman to Indapoor, for the purpose of having their utility fairly ascertained. The trial was made under the direction of Mr. Goldsmid, of the larger American plough against a Deccan plough, and the result was highly satisfactory, inasmuch as the American plough, with six bullocks, actually did double the work of the Deccan plough, drawn by ten bullocks. No doubt an experienced hand was selected to guide and maintain the reputation of the old Mahratta implement, while both the ploughman and his team, in the case of the American plough, were new to their task. Every effort will now unquestionably be made by the Agricultural Society of Western India to introduce the extensive use of this plough.—That great and important benefits would result therefrom we entertain no doubt.

A full and clear account of the trial, prepared by Lieutenant Wingate of the Engineers, an eye-witness of the experiment, and said to be a very competent judge, from his knowledge of the husbandry of the Deccan, has recently appeared. He pronounces the victory of the American plough complete. We make the following extract:

"A level spot of ground which had been laying waste for several years, was selected as likely to afford a fair specimen of the powers of the respective ploughs. The soil was of moderate stiffness, less difficult to break up than the fine black soils, but more so considerably than those generally used for the Khurreef crops, and covered in patches by the grass called 'Koonhah.' *

A team of ten well conditioned bullocks, of ordinary size, having been yoked to the Deccan plough, and six to the American, the two were started together. It was found, after the lapse of an hour, when the trial terminated, that the ground broken up by the latter measured two roods six perches, and by the former two roods. The team of six bullocks appeared slightly more distressed than the other, but the difference, if any, was hardly perceptible. The furrows were then in several places accurately gauged, when it appeared that those made by the Deccan plough varied in depth from seven to ten inches, and by the American from seven to eight and a half inches. The superiority of the Deccan plough, in this respect, however, was more apparent than real; for the lower portions of its furrows were mere scratches, made by the sharp points of the share, and a ridge of firm, unbroken ground remained between every furrow. This, of course, entails the necessity of another ploughing, while, on the contrary, the American plough ensures every portion of the soil even to the bottom of the furrow, being completely broken up and turned over.

This consideration alone is conclusive as to the great superiority of the latter, with which, as the cultivators themselves assembled to witness the experiment, fully acknowledged the ground was as completely broken up in one ploughing as could be done with their own in two.

The American plough, however, possesses other advantages. Its extreme lightness is such as to admit of its being carried easily by one man, and would thus offer no obstacles to a Coonbee cultivating fields widely apart. It requires no other tackling than a simple rope or chain. Its surfaces in contact with the soil, being of cast iron, would soon acquire a high polish, and thus enable it to glide easily through a wet heavy soil, which would offer serious impediments to the Deccan plough.

Such are a few of the advantages which this plough has over the native; but in the following respects it appears to be somewhat inferior. Its small size and lightness render it somewhat inapplicable to the purpose of breaking up heavy black soils, which form some of the most valuable lands in the Deccan. A larger and stronger plough, of similar construction, might, however, easily be made, and rendered applicable to the purpose. Another disadvantage urged by the natives, and one for which it is difficult to devise a remedy, is, that instead of tearing up, it cuts through the roots of the 'Koonda.' The Deccan plough, however, is far from answering the purpose of rooting out this powerful grass effectually, and its superiority in this respect appears to be trifling.

It is gratifying to add, that the Coonbees (who were assembled in crowds,) seemed to view the experiment throughout with the

* A powerful grass, with large woody roots striking deeply into the soil. It grows with wonderful rapidity, and being extremely difficult to extirpate, forms one of the formidable obstacles to the successful cultivation which the Deccan cultivator has to contend against.

deepest interest; and at its conclusion were eager in their inquiries as to the price of the new plough, the possibility of procuring it, and of its being repaired by the village artificers, &c."

Notice to Subscribers.

The next (12th) number will complete the first half year of the Farmers' Cabinet, and as some few of our patrons subscribed for six months, we shall with that number discontinue the work to all those whose term of subscription then expires, unless they order it to be continued. Orders may be given to such post-masters as are found willing to act as agents—or at the office, No. 67 South Second street.

We are now engaged in re-printing the back numbers of the Cabinet, and persons who wish to perfect their sets of the work can be supplied with the necessary numbers, if early application be made.

New subscribers will be furnished with the back numbers, unless we are otherwise ordered.

Agricultural Societies---Union County.

The New Berlin "Star" of the 3d inst., contains the proceedings of a meeting held in that village on the preceding Tuesday, (Nov. 29) for the purpose of considering the expediency of forming a county Agricultural Society. The preparatory steps were taken and a committee appointed for the purpose of calling a county meeting with a view of organizing the Society. Much more depends upon starting right in this business than people are generally aware of—a great deal rests upon a proper organization, a just distribution of the duties of the officers appointed, and the faithful performance of these duties,and the degree of interest excited in the whole body. Rural industry has always advanced wherever Agricultural Societies have been formed and sustained. We do not refer to nominal societies; they are worse than none at all, and generally have an unfriendly influence on the agricultural character of the county where they exist. We refer to those, and we could point to some in this section, and to many in New-England, that have a healthful and vigorous existence, whose officers and members are alike emulous to promote the interest of the institution. Agricultural societies, judiciously organized and liberally sustained, not only benefit the individuals immediately connected with them, but they also promote the public welfare. We hope the time is not far distant when we shall have a "State Agricultural Society," with its auxiliary branches in every county—indeed in every township, all acting together for the benefit of the whole. What an immense amount of valuable information would, by this means, be disseminated throughout the State. It has long been a reproach to Pennsylvania, an agricultural state, that the old society, in which some of her choicest spirits were engaged, was suffered to languish and die. The renovating spirit, however, is abroad, and we hope, that Phœnix like, she will rise from her ashes, to beautify and bless our land. When the farmers awake to their true interests; when they form themselves into a state society, with their branches extending through every county and township in the commonwealth, they may expect from the state government liberal appropriations.

We give below the proceedings of the meeting referred to. We hope the effort may prove successful.

From the New Berlin (Union county) Star.

Agricultural Meeting.

At a meeting of the citizens of New Berlin and vicinity, at C. Shroyer's, on Tuesday evening last, agreeably to public notice, for the purpose of considering the expediency of organizing a County Agricultural Society, JOSEPH STILLWELL, Esq. was called to the Chair, and ISAAC SLENKER, Esq. appointed Secretary.

The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to draft a preamble and resolutions,—*J. H. Horning, John Lashells, James Harrison, Isaac Slenker, Samuel Weirick, Gabriel Yearick*, and *Michael Clemmens*, who reported as follows:

WHEREAS, Agriculture, though in operation a long time, and has been a discussion of many ages that are now no more; is still but imperfectly understood, particularly in many parts of the United States. In England, it is, perhaps, better under-

stood than in any other part of the habitable globe. The pre-eminence that there prevails, not only in the cultivation of the soil, but the rearing of domestic animals, is to be attributed to the peculiar attention they have paid to this subject. The researches and investigations made by scientific and practical farmers. For it is not to be doubted that agticulture is a science, and like all other systems of education or learning requires experience, application and attention. Connected with the culture and improvement of the soil, is the rearing and care of domestic animals, and the treatment of the various diseases they are liable to. All this we conceive could be better learned or accomplished by an association such as is now under consideration. And in addition it would bring annually together the experiments of the farmer, the ingenuity of the Mechanic and Manufacturer, and of the industrious both male and female; thus giving to each a spring of industry and rivalry that could not fail of bringing together those peculiar concomitants that tend to enrich themselves, their country, and their posterity. By endeavoring to establish a *Union county Agricultural Society*, we do not wish it to be understood that we in the least wish to detract any thing from the merits of the *Union Agricultural Society;* our only objection is, that the territory is too extensive, embracing within its limits the counties of Lycoming, Columbia, Northumberland and Union, and on this account precludes many of our industrious farmers, manufacturers and mechanics, from attending the annual exhibitions, &c. Our only aim and ambition is to bring the advantages such a society may afford, within the reach of the citizens of our county generally. Therefore,

Resolved, That we deem the formation of a *Union County Agricultural Society*, a measure that would be highly beneficial, alike to the farmer, the manufacturer, the mechanic, and indeed to every class of our citizens; as it would tend to create a respectful rivalry in every branch of industry; and perhaps would lead to the developement of some hidden resources that would be the means of aggrandizing our citizens and be of general welfare.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to call a county meeting on this subject and to take such other measures as they may deem advisable.

On motion of Mr. Lashells, said committee to consist of nine, viz: John Lashells, James Merrill, Isaac Eyer, Samuel Templeton, M. Clemens, R. P. Maclay, Philip Seebold, Philip Gross, M. Benfer.

JOSEPH STILLWELL, Pres't.

ISAAC SLENKER, Sect'y.

For the Farmers' Cabinet.

Castor Bean.

Information is wanted respecting the culture of the Castor Bean, (PALMA CHRISTI) 1. When to be planted? 2. How?—distance apart?—how worked? 3. Kind of soil—wet or dry—rich or thin? 4. Produce per acre? 5. When ripe? and machinery used in preparing the oil? 6. Quantity of oil to the bushel—of cold and of warm pressed? 7. Average market price per gallon?

AGRICOLA.

We give the above in the hope that some person skilled in the culture of the Castor Bean and its fabrication into oil, will impart the information sought for. For the process of extracting the oil in Illinois, Agricolo is referred to No. 5 of the Farmers' Cabinet. Our climate and soil are unquestionably favorable to its cultivation, and we invite the attention of farmers to experiments in its culture. There is considerable demand for the article, and we believe that its cultivation might be rendered very advantageous. Any information directed to the Editor of the Farmers' Cabinet, will be duly acknowledged.

Clover and Rye Grass.

In the selection of clover and rye grass seeds, particular attention should be paid to their quality and cleanness; the purple color of the clover seed denotes that it has been ripe and well saved; and the seeds of weeds may be detected in it by narrow inspection, if there be any; but various noxious weeds are frequently mixed up with the seeds of the rye grass, which it is difficult either to discover or to separate from them. Between the seeds of the annual and perennial rye grass, the difference is hardly discernable; and therefore, unless it is of his own growth, the cultivator must depend in a great measure on the character of the person from whom he purchases it.

The after-culture of clover and rye grass consists chiefly of picking off any stones or other hard bodies which may appear on the surface in the spring succeeding that in which it was sown, and cutting out by the roots any thistles, docks, or other large grown weeds. After this the surface should be rolled once, to smooth it for the scythe. This operation is best performed in the first dry weather of March. Some give a top-dressing of soot, gypsum, common lime, peat, or wood-ashes, at this time or earlier; gypsum has been particularly recommended

as a top-dressing for clovers, and the other herbage legumes, because as their ashes afford that substance in considerable quantities, it appears to be a necessary ingredient of their food. Dutch ashes have been strongly recommended as a top-dressing for red clover, and they also contain gypsum; but where the soil is in good heart, and contains calcareous matter, any description of top-dressing, though it may be of advantage when it does not interfere with the general economy of the farm, cannot be considered as necessary.

The taking of the clover, or clover and rye grass crop, is either by cutting green for soiling, by making into hay, or by pasturing. It is observed in *The Code of Agriculture*, that it is a most important point to ascertain, in what cases cutting, or feeding, is most beneficial. If fed, the land has the advantage of the dung and urine of the pasturing stock; but the dung being dropt in irregular quantities, and in the heat of summer, when it is devoured by insects, loses much of its utility. If the dung arising from the herbage, whether consumed in soiling, or as hay, were applied to the land in one body, and at the proper season, the operation would be more effectual. The smoother of a thick crop, continued for any time upon the ground, greatly tends to promote its fertility; and it has been pretty uniformly found, after repeated trials, upon soils of almost every description, that oats taken after clover that has been cut, either for soiling or hay, is superior to the crop taken after clover pastured by sheep.

General Principles of Rearing, Managing, and Feeding Domestic Animals.

After the birth, the first interference on the part of man should be that of supplying the mother with food of a light and delicate quality, compared to that which she had been in the habit of using, and also of administering the same description of food to the offspring, so far as it may by its nature be able to use it. The gentlest treatment should accompany these operations; and the opportunity taken of familiarizing both parent and offspring with man, by gently caressing them, or at least, by familiar treatment on the part of the attendant.

As the animals increase in size and strength, they should have abundance of air, exercise, and food, according to their natures; and whatever is attempted by man in the way of taming or teaching should be conducted on mild and conciliating principles, rather than on those of harshness and compulsion.

Food.

Food, though it must be supplied in abundance, ought not to be given to satiety. Intervals of resting and exercise must be allowed according to circumstances. Even animals grazing on a rich pasture have been found to feed faster when removed from it once a day, and either folded or put in an inferior pasture for two or three hours. Stall-fed cattle and swine will have their flesh improved in flavour by being turned out into a yard or field once a day; and many find that they feed better, and produce better flavoured meat when kept loose under warm sheds or hammels, one or two in a division, a practice now very general in Berwickshire. * * * * * In general it may be observed, that if the digestive powers of the animal are in a sound state, the more food he eats, the sooner will the desired result be obtained; a very moderate quantity beyond sufficiency constitutes abundance; but by withholding this additional quantity, an animal, especially if young, may go on eating for several years, without ever attaining to fatness.

Growing Animals.

In young growing animals, the powers of digestion are so great, that they require less rich food than such as are of mature age; for the same reason also they require more exercise. If rich food is supplied in liberal quantities, and exercise withheld, diseases are generated, the first of which may be excessive fatness. * * * * Common sense will suggest the propriety of preferring a medium course between very rich and very poor nutriment. * *

Salt, it appears, from various experiments, may be advantageously given to most animals, in very small quantities; it acts as a whet to the appetite, promotes the secretion of bile, and, in general, is favourable to health and activity. In this way only can it be considered as preventing or curing diseases; unless perhaps in the case of worms, to which all saline and bitter substances are known to be injurious. * * *

Where a sufficient degree of warmth to promote the ordinary circulation of the blood is not produced by the natural climate, or by exercise, it must be supplied by an artificial climate. Houses and sheds are the obvious resources both for this purpose, and for protection from *extremes of weather*. Cold rains and northerly winds are highly injurious, by depriving the external surface of the body of caloric more rapidly than it can be supplied from within by respiration, and the action of the stomach; and also by contracting the pores of the skin, so as to impede circulation. When an animal happens to shed its covering, whether of hair, wool, or feathers, at

such inclement seasons, the effects on its general health are highly injurious. The excessive heats of summer, by expanding all the parts of the animal frame, occasion a degree of lassitude, and want of energy even in the stomach and intestines; and while the animal eats and digests less food than usual, a greater waste than usual takes place by perspiration. Nature has provided trees, rocks, caverns, hills and waters, to moderate these extremes of heat and weather, and man imitates them by hovels, sheds, and other buildings, according to particular circumstances.

Air and Water.

Good air and water it may seem unnecessary to insist on; but cattle and horses, and even poultry pent up in close buildings, where there are no facilities for a change of the atmosphere, often suffer on this account. A slight degree of fever is produced at first, and after a time, when the habit of the animal becomes reconciled to such a state, a retarded circulation, and general decay or diminution of the vital energies takes place.

Moderate Exercise.

Moderate exercise ought not to be dispensed with, where the flavor of animal produce is any object; it is known to promote circulation, perspiration, and digestion, and by consequence to invigorate the appetite. Care must be taken, however, not to carry exercise to that point where it becomes a labor instead of a recreation. In some cases, as in feeding swine and poultry, fatness is hastened by promoting sleep and preventing motion, rather than encouraging it; but such animals cannot be considered healthy fed; in fact their fatness is most commonly the result of disease.

Tranquillity.

Tranquillity is an obvious requisite, for where the passions of brutes are called into action, by whatever means, their influence on their bodies is often as great as in the human species. Hence the use of castration, complete or partial separation, shading from too much light, protection from insects, dogs, and other annoying animals, and from the too frequent intrusion of man.

Cleanliness.

Cleanliness is favorable to health, by promoting perspiration and circulation. Animals in a wild state attend to this part of their economy themselves; but in proportion as they are cultivated, or brought under the control of man, this becomes out of their power; and to insure their subserviency to his wishes, man must supply by art this as well as other parts of culture. Combing and brushing stall-fed cattle and cows is known to contribute materially to health; though washing sheep with a view to cleaning the wool often has a contrary effect from the length of time the wool requires to dry.

* * * * *

Comfort.

Unquestionably an animal may be well fed, lodged, and cleaned, without being comfortable in every respect; and in brutes, as well as men, want of comfort operates on the digestive powers. If the surface of a stall in which an ox, or a horse stands, deviates much from a level, he will be continually uneasy; and he will be uneasy during night, if its surface is rough, or if a proper bed of litter is not prepared every evening for it to repose on. The form of racks and mangers is often less commodious than it might be. A hay rack which projects forward is bad; because the animal in drawing out the hay is teased with the hay seeds falling in its eyes or ears; and this form, it may be added, is apt to cause the breath of the animal to ascend through its food, which must after a time render it nauseous. For this reason hay should lie as short a time as possible in lofts, but when practicable be given direct from the rick.

Sheep—Different Breeds should be cultivated among us.

It seems to be a settled law of Nature that a difference in the quality or grade of wool should accompany a different form of body, &c. in the sheep. A robust constitution, and a large, well spread stately form, as a general rule, produces a longer and more coarse staple, while a more delicate constitution and more slender form produces a finer —more close and delicate staple. This rule holds good also we believe in animals which produce fur—the smaller and more delicately formed ones produce a corresponding fineness of fur, while the longer and stronger ones even in the same latitude produces a coarser kind.

Thus, the mole has an exceedingly soft, short, and fine coat, while the Buffalo, Caribour and Moose have a coarse and long one. The difference of fleece however seems to be a little stronger in sheep than in most animals—that is, a greater disproportion for slight differences of shape.

Those wool-growers who have been stimulated by the high prices of wool, for a series of years past, and have turned their attention to the production of a fine fleece, regardless of size or shape of carcass, have mostly found themselves at last surrounded by a weak and sickly flock. The question then has been, how can we restore the health and hardiness of our sheep? By crossing.

Crossing with what? All the flocks around me are similar. And it has been found necessary to mingle some alloy, or in other words, cross with some of the coarse wool breeds to keep up the health, and in many instances even the continuance of their fine wooled flocks.

Hence we see the necessity of keeping a few of the different breeds. At the present time, such has been the degree to which fine fleeces have been produced that wool of a coarser grade bears nearly the same price as the finest, and hence as those sheep of a somewhat coarser grade produce heavier fleeces than the extra fine, the over plus of wool thus produced will make up the small deficiency in price. For a cross with the Merino we do not at present know a finer or more compatible breed than the South Downs.

We must follow the laws which nature dictates and occasionally give our fine wooled flocks a mix of some more hardy and robust blood, or they will become weak and unprofitable.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

———Science has sought, on weary wing,
On sea and shore, each mute and living thing.

Rise and Progress of Agriculture.

The antiquity of this art is undoubtedly beyond that of all others. From the earliest accounts of the eastern nations, we have reason to think, that agriculture had been understood by them in considerable perfection; seeing they were always supplied not only with the necessaries, but the greatest luxuries of life.

As soon as the descendants of Abraham were settled in Palestine, they became husbandmen, from the chiefs of the tribe of Judah to the lowest branch of the tribe of Benjamin. High birth or rank did not at that time make any distinction; for agriculture was considered as the most honorable of employments.

The Chaldeans, who inhabited the country where agriculture had its birth, carried that valuable art to a degree of perfection unknown in former times. They cultivated their lands with great assiduity, and seem to have found out some means of restoring fertility to an exhausted soil, having plentiful harvests in succession; on which account they were not obliged, as their predecessors had been, to change their situation, in order to maintain a sufficiency for themselves and their numerous flocks and herds.

The Egyptians, who, from the natural fertility of their country by the overflowing of the Nile, raised vast quantities of corn, ascribed the invention of the art of agriculture to Osris. They also regarded Isis, their second diety, as the discoverer of the use of wheat and barley, which before grew wild in the fields.

It is also related of the ancient Persians, that their kings laid aside their grandeur every month to eat with husbandmen. This is a striking instance of the estimation in which they held agriculture; for at that time other arts were practised among that people in great perfection, particularly those of weaving, needle-work, and embroidery. The precepts of the religion taught by the ancient magi, or priests, included the practice of agriculture.

The Phœnicians, better known in Scripture by the name of Philistines, were remarkable for their attention to, and skill in agriculture; but finding themselves too much disturbed and confined by the incursions and conquests of the Israelites, they spread themselves through the greater part of the Mediteranean Islands, and carried with them their knowledge of the art of cultivation.

The Athenians taught the use of corn to the rest of the Greeks. They also instructed them to cultivate the ground, and to prepare it for the reception of the seed. The Greeks soon perceived that bread was more wholesome, and its taste more delicate than that of acorns and the wild roots of the field. Hesiod was the first we know of among the Greeks who wrote on this interesting subject. He lived about 900 years before the Christain era.

The ancient Romans esteemed agriculture so honorable an employment, that the most distinguished senators at their leisure intervals applied themselves to the cultivation of the soil. Numa Pompilius, one of their kings, was much distinguished for his skill in agriculture; and such was the amiable simplicity of those times, that their greatest warriors and legislators were often called from the active labors of the field to the highest offices in the state. Regulus, the celebrated Roman General, when in Africa, requested of the senate to be recalled, lest his farm might suffer for want of proper cultivation in his absence; and the senate wrote to him for answer, that it should be taken care of at the public expense while he continued to lead the armies. Cato the censor, Varro, Virgil, Columella, and other distinguished Romans, wrote on the subject of agriculture.

In China, a day is still annually appointed when the Emperor goes in solemn procession to a field, where he shows his sense of

the inestimable benefits of agriculture by undertaking for a short time, the laborious occupation of directing the plough in person.

Previous to the establishment of the Romans, the cultivation of the soil was but little understood in Britain. By their assistance, however, it experienced considerable improvement, insomuch that the Britons were enabled annually to export large quantities of grain. Subsequent to this period, it has been continually advancing in its progress, and has now attained a high degree of perfection. Societies have of late years been formed for the purpose of encouraging this and other useful arts; and a plan has been proposed for introducing the study of agriculture into schools, and making it a necessary part of national education.

In the year 1576, a period of difficulty and distress, France began to pay particular attention to this important subject. Prize questions were annually proposed by the academies of Lyons, Bourdeaux, and by the society instituted for the improvement of agriculture in Brittany. About this time, it was also greatly encouraged in Russia, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and Italy; in the last mentioned country, a private gentleman, about 80 years ago, left his whole fortune to the establishment and support of an agricultural academy.

Whether we consider agriculture as a means of procuring as well the necessaries as luxuries of life; of providing a security against the aggregated calamities of scarcity, famine, and disease; or of engaging the mind in active and extensive pursuits of general knowledge, it is one of the most useful and important of all the arts which have employed the attention of mankind. Its theory is, in a great measure, dependent on several branches of science, such as natural history, chemestry, experimental philosophy, and mechanics, all of which may be successfully applied to its advancement; and without a competent knowledge of these, it cannot be properly understood. Its practical part, however, may be carried on, independently of scientific experiments. No person therefore need be deterred from attempting any improvements, because he is not conversant with the more abstract parts of physical knowledge.

The flourishing state of manufactures is greatly dependent on that of agriculture; because the price of those commodities obtained by labor, is not only closely connected with that of the necessaries of life, but some of the most considerable articles of manufactures are originally supplied by agricultural productions, such as wool, flax, hemp, rape-seed, tallow, &c.

The successful advancement of the rural art depends on two circumstances: the one, its improvement by discovery or invention; the other a mere extensive practice of such improvements, when fully demonstrated. The former is effected by the contrivance of more perfect machines and implements of husbandry, which facilitate the progress of labor; the introduction of new articles of profitable culture, and the most advantageous method of treating those which have already been cultivated, though in a defective manner. The latter, namely, the practice, relates not only to future improvements, but likewise to those which, though generally known, have been either wholly neglected, or adopted only in peculiar places.

Agricultural Axioms.

Benjamin F. Station, Esq. in a letter to the editor of the Farmers' Register, says: "I am pleased that in connection with others, you have succeeded in establishing some highly important truths which were formerly not known, or entirely discredited, (it is lamentable that many should still be so slow as not to embrace them,) but are now received among the more intelligent among the cultivators of the soil, as *agricultural axioms*, about which all doubt and discussion may cease; *axioms* that may be expressed in few words, and on the correctness of which any one who chooses, may immediately and safely proceed to act. A few of these are—

That deep ploughing never need be dreaded.

A small farm well conducted is a source of greater revenue, than a large one indifferently managed.

It would be a vast amount of saving to the whole community, if every private owner were required to keep his stock from committing depredations on his neighbors, instead of imposing this onerous burden upon them.

The profits of agriculture (other things being equal) are in proportion to the attention paid to manuring; that is, as is the extent of the latter, so will be that of the former.

The corn crop, with the stalk cut up from the ground entire, at a much earlier period than has usually been practised, is worth about double what it is when gathered in the old way.

Prepared food of some kinds, and for some animals, will go nearly, if not quite, twice as far as that which is given in a raw and natural state.

The raising of tobacco need not impoverish the land, but it is only to the undue and

disproportionate space that is allotted to this staple commodity that the mischief it is said to have produced, is attributable.

Mangel Wurtzel.

Mr. Wm. K. Townsend, in a letter to the editor of the New York Farmer, has the following remarks on this valuable root.

"I am every season more and more convinced of the value of this (the Mangel Wurtzel,) crop to farmers like myself, that winter a tolerably large stock. This is my fourth season of cultivating them, and I mean in future to increase the quantity three fold. I took off my crop last fall in season to seed down the field with rye and grass.—The crop of rye was excellent, and the grass is now equal to that in the same field, sowed after a crop of early potatoes. I do not believe they exhaust land more than any other root crop; if the land is well prepared, and the seed sown at the proper time, two good hoeings are sufficient. I have this season gathered the under leaves for my hogs, and they will eat them as fast as any thing that I can give them. I do not think the crop is injured by taking them off. As my early beets did not come to perfection, we used the mangel wurtzel, taking out the smallest, when two grew together, in their stead; and if well cooked and prepared for the table, we think them as good as beets. I usually raise them to feed out after my turnips are gone in the spring; my milch cows do well on them, as well as other cattle, and I want no better feed for my breeding cows and store pigs along early in the spring, before they get a good bite of grass."

The Papaw—Carica Papaya.

Though the papaw-tree is now found in the East as well as in the West, it is generally understood to be a native of America, and have been carried to the East about the time of the first intercourse between the two continents. The papaw rises with a hollow stem to the height of from eighteen to twenty feet, after which it has a head composed, not of branches, but of leaves and very long foot-stalks. The male and female flowers are on different trees: the female flowers are bell-shaped, large, generally yellow, and followed by a fleshy fruit, about the size of a small melon. The tree and even the fruit are full of an acrid milky juice; but the fruit is eaten with sugar and pepper, like melon; and when the half-grown fruit is properly pickled, it is but little inferior to the pickled mango of the East Indies. There are many forms in the fruit, and some varieties in the color of the flower of the papaw; and there is also a dwarf species; though as this has been observed chiefly in airy situations, it may be the common sort stunted for want of moisture.

Fig. 40.—The Papaw.

The American papaw, in our view, is the prince of wild fruit-bearing shrubs. The leaves are long, of a rich appearance, and green, considerably resembling the smaller leaves of tobacco. The stem is straight, white, and of unrivalled beauty. In fact, we have seen no cultivated shrub, so ornamental and graceful, as the papaw. The fruit closely resembles a cucumber, having, however a very smooth and regular appearance. When ripe it is of a rich yellow. There are generally from two to five in a cluster. A papaw shrub, hanging full of fruits, of a size and weight so disproportioned to the stem, and from under long and rich looking leaves of the same yellow with the ripened fruit and of an African luxuriance of growth, is to us one of the richest spectacles, that we have ever contemplated in the array of the woods.—The fruit contains from two to six seeds, like those of the tamarind except that they are double the size. The pulp of the fruit resembles that of an egg custard, in consistance and appearance. It has the same creamy feeling in the mouth, and unites the taste of eggs, cream, sugar and spice. It is a natural custard, too luscious for the relish of most people. The fruit is nutricious, and a great resource to savages. So many whimsical and unexpected tastes are compounded in it, that, it is said, a person of the most hypocondriac temperament, relaxes to a smile when he tastes papaw, for the first time.

Hawthorn Hedges.

Fences of hawthorn, interpersed with fruit trees, are very common in England. They are more durable, look better, and offer a greater security to cattle and crops than any other method of inclosure. There are many shrubs of which hedges may be made, but among them all there are none equal to the white and black thorns, that will suit the generality of soils, and are easily propagated. A correspondent of the Bath Agricultural Society, who had for thirty years cultivated about one hundred acres of land, gives the following particulars of his mode of rearing this fence:—

Some of my plants I raised in a nursery from the haws, and others I drew up in the woods, and wherever they could be found. I made my banks flat, and three feet wide at the top, with a sloping side next the ditches, which were dug two feet below the surface of the field, and one foot wide at the bottom. The turfs were regularly laid with the grass downward, on that side of the ditch on which the hedge was to be raised, and the best of the mould laid at top. My sets were straight, smooth, and even growing ones, and planted as soon as possible after taking up. I planted them at a foot distance; and about every forty feet I set young fruit or other trees, such as ash, oak, beach, elm, according as the soil suited them. I then laid in a second row of quicksets, on another bed of fresh earth, at the same distance, and covered them over with good mould. The planting thus ended, I finished the bank, and secured it properly from injuries by a dead hedge well wrought together, and fastened by stakes of oak trees on the top of the bank at three feet distance.

The time I planted it was the latter end of February, which time I prefer to October, and in general the plants succeed best at that time. In autumn I cleared it from weeds. The following spring I examined my hedges carefully, securing the stakes where they were loosened, and filling up any holes that were made. Wherever any of the quicksets had failed, or appeared dwindling, I replaced them with fresh ones from my nursery; and also such of the young trees as had been planted on the top of the bank, and cleared the whole from weeds.

In one field it happened that my sheep had eaten off many of the young shoots; but as I thought they would recover, I did not replace them; but I afterwards found it would have been best to have done so, for they never grow so as to overtake the rest, and this hedge was unequal and much inferior to the other. The principal care now necessary was, to keep the quick free from weeds, and well protected from cattle, till it was of an age fit for plashing, which, if it is healthy and vigorous, may be done in its seventh or eighth year. It will, however, be right to go over it once a year during that time with a knife, and cut off the redundant, or ill-shaped and straggling branches, keeping the face of it as smooth and even as possible; and also root up all entangling weeds, which, by confining it, would otherwise spoil its beauty, and hinder its growth.

The weeds most destructive to young hedges are, white and black bryony, bindweed, and the traveler's joy. White bryony has leaves like the vine, and its berries are red; the root is as big as a man's leg, and runs very deep. Black bryony will grow thirty feet long, and with its clasping tendrils will entangle and choke the young quick all the way. As its root is very large, it must be dug out deep to destroy it. Traveler's joy has woody stalks, with a rough bark; the leaves are small, and of a pale color, and it bears white cottony tufts in autumn; it is more destructive to young quick-hedges than any other, overshading it like an arbour. The root of this plant is not deep like the rest, but care must be taken to get it up entire, for the least piece left will send up fresh shoots next spring.

Dear Haunch of Mutton.—When the present Duke of Bedford was Lord Lieut. of Ireland, he was once, when dining with Lord Sligo, earnestly recommended to taste a fine haunch of Glynde mutton, to which his Grace, himself a breeder and admirer of South Downs, and well acquainted with Mr. Ellman, readily acceded; but no politeness to his noble host would move him to finish the slice, or say it was other than rank in flavor and terribly tough. On inquiry, the disappointed Marquis ascertained that his shepherd, who had been ordered to kill the best South Down Sheep, had, in accordance with the doctrines of political economy, which estimates every thing at its market price, actually slaughtered for the vice regal banque a ram, for which Lord Sligo had a few weeks before paid Mr. Ellman 200 guineas.—*Baxter's Library.*

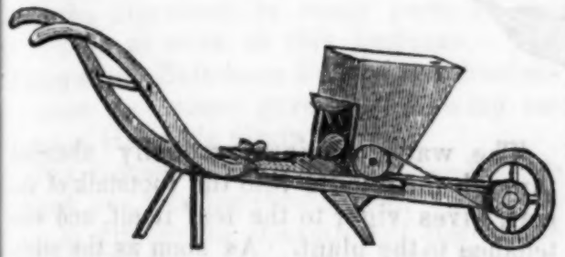
We occasionally hear of a simpering, double refined young lady boasting that she never labored, and could not for the life of her make a pudding, as though ignorance of these matters was a mark of gentility and a leaning towards European nobility. There can be no greater proof of silly arrogance than such remarks, and for the especial benefit of such, we would kindly inform them that Madame de Genlis supported the family of the Duc de Orleans, (and among them the present reigning Monarch of France,) in

London, by the sale of her drawings; one of the Duchesses of the same Court maintained herself and husband in Bath, by teaching a music school, and the Queen herself, kept her family by plaiting bonnets. These examples we hope will have their influence, where examples of our own good country-women would be spurned as vulgar, republican models.—*Mechanic and Farmer.*

The Drill-Barrow----Cultivator ---Turnep-Hoe.

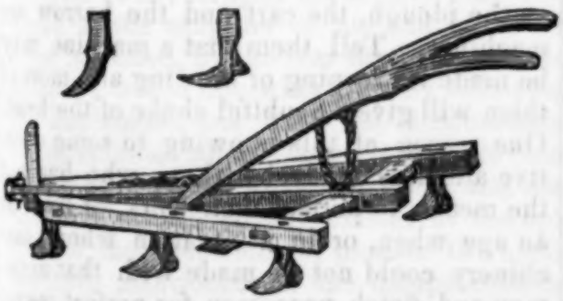
The implements used in the Turnep culture, which are figured below, are useful for various other purposes on the farm or in the garden. They are, (*fig.* 50.)

Fig. 50.



THE DRILL-BARROW, which is made in different forms, and is used in sowing various small seeds, as onions, radishes, lucern, beans, peas, &c. The machine is propelled like a wheel-barrow, and sows and covers the seed at the same operation. The cut represents the one we have in use. They are manufactured by Mr. Craig, of Galway, N. Y., and sold at eight dollars. A barrow somewhat differently modeled, has been invented in Lewis county, which has been highly commended for its value in planting corn. Price fifteen dollars.

Fig. 51.



THE CULTIVATOR, (*fig.* 51,) is the most useful implement we know of for dressing Indian corn, as well as ruta baga. By being passed frequently between the rows, the ground is kept free from weeds, and in a fine state of pulverization, while the manure and vegetable matter is left under cover, where it is most beneficial, and the roots of the plants preserved from injury. It should be passed twice at dressing, and if the soil is stiff or grassy, it may be passed oftener, or repeated at short intervals. The teeth are of various forms, according to the purposes for which they are used. Some of these are figured in the cut. It is most convenient to have sets of different kinds, and the cost is trifling, that they may be shifted at pleasure. Our late excellent neighbor, Joseph Bullock, used effectually to extricate the quack grass in his corn ground, by the frequent use of the cultivator, the teeth of which he had modeled for this purpose. They are manufactured by Mr. Craig, and, together with the drill-barrows spoken of, kept for sale by our enterprising friend, C. N. Bement, who is making some improvements on both these implements.* The cultivator is often denominated horse-hoe, scuffler, scarrifier, &c. It has sometimes a wheel attached forward to regulate the depth.

Fig. 52.

THE TURNEP HOE, (*fig.* 52,) is a very simple, but useful implement, particularly in the garden, where it greatly facilitates the weeding process. We have them of various lengths, from four to ten inches. They should be of cast-steel, and may be made of an old file or rasp; the blade should be thin, and not more than one and a half or two inches broad. They may be drawn the arm's length without being raised, and there is little danger of cutting the plants among which they are used.

Cultivator.

I call that mind free which is not passively framed by outward circumstances, which is not the creature of accidental impulse, but which bends events to its own improvement, acts upon an inward spring, for an immutable principle which it has deliberately espoused.

I call that mind free which protects itself against the usurpations of society, which does not cower to human opinions, which feels accountable to a higher law than fashion, which respects itself too much to be a slave to the many or the few.—*Dr. Channing.*

A writer on swearing says that an oath from a woman's lips is unnatural and incredible, and he would as soon expect a bullet from a rose-bud.

Disdain not your inferior in the gifts of fortune, for he may be your superior in the gifts of the mind.

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* Of the improvements our readers will be duly advised. These implements may be obtained at the principal seed stores in Philadelphia.

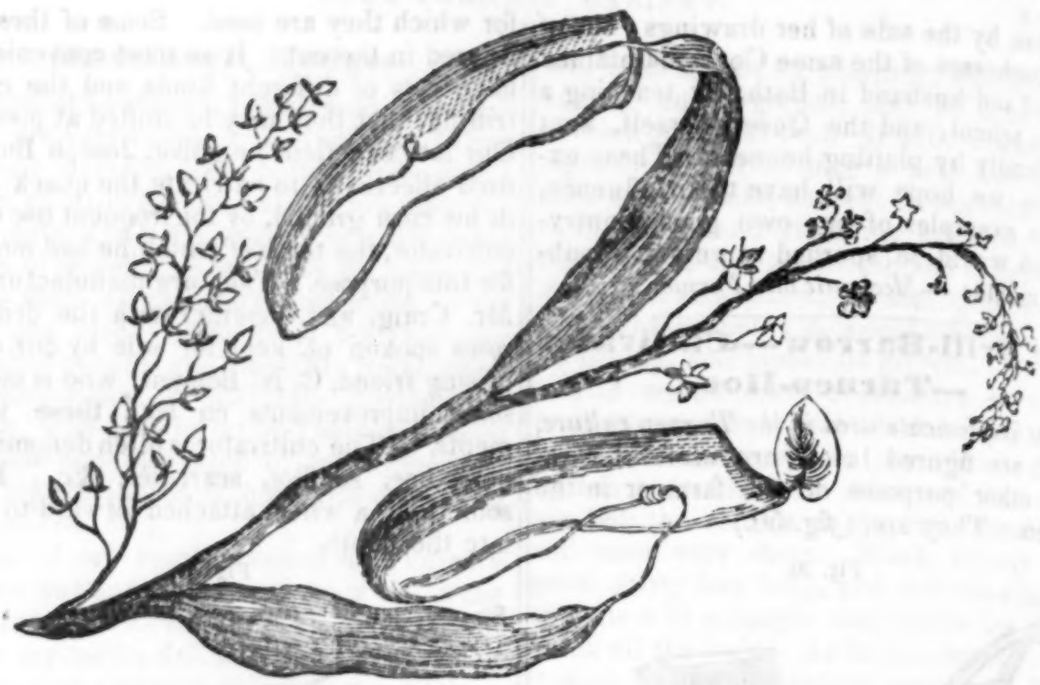

Fig 53.—The Pitcher Plant.

The Pitcher-Plant.

Nepenthes distillatoria.

There is not, perhaps, among the numerous examples that occur of the provident economy of Nature, in the vegetable part of the creation, a more remarkable instance of contrivance adapted to circumstances, and of means suited to the end, than what is evidently displayed in a plant which is commonly met with in Ceylon, and other islands of the east, and which has obtained the appropriate name of the *Pitcher* plant.

Being the inhabitant of a tropical climate, and found on the most dry and stony situations, Nature has furnished it with the means of an ample supply of moisture, without which it would have withered and perished.

To the footstalk of each leaf, near the base, is attached a kind of bag, shaped like a pitcher, of the same consistance and color as the leaf in the early stage of its growth, but changing with age to a reddish purple. It is girt round with an oblique band or hoop, and covered with a lid neatly fitted, and movable on a kind of hinge or strong fibre, which, passing over the handle, connects the vessel with the leaf.

By the shrinking or contracting of this fibre the lid is drawn open whenever the weather is showery, or dews fall, which would appear to be just the contrary of what usually happens in nature, though the contraction probably is occasioned by the hot and dry atmosphere, and the expansion does not take place till the moisture has fallen, and saturated the pitcher. When this is the case the cover falls down, and it closes so firmly as to prevent any evaporation from taking place.

The water having gradually absorbed through the handle into the footstalk of the leaf, gives vigor to the leaf itself, and sustenance to the plant. As soon as the pitchers are exhausted, the lids again open, to admit whatever moisture may fall; and when the plant has produced its seed, and the dry season fairly sets in, it withers with all the covers of the pitchers standing open.—*Barrow's Cochin China.*

Machinery for Mowing and Reaping.

Farmers are generally slow in adopting or encouraging any machine which will facilitate their labor. They seem to forget that the implements of labor which have been handed down to them by their fathers, such as the plough, the cart and the harrow are machines. Tell them that a machine may be made for reaping or mowing and most of them will give a doubtful shake of the head. One reason of this is owing to some abortive attempts made by those who had not the means to perfect their work, or lived at an age when, or in a situation where, machinery could not be made with that accuracy and finish necessary for perfect movements.

We have long been firm in the faith that the time would come when most of the operations carried on in the growth of corn or grain, would be done by machinery, from the first turning over the sod, by that admirable machine, the plough, to the harvesting. We have no doubt that ploughing will be done successfully by steam, and that mowing and reaping will be done by the same Herculean power. For a long time our farmers were opposed to the thrashing ma-

chines—this opposition arose from imperfect machinery, but still this very opposition retarded the perfection of the very machine it opposed. So in reaping and mowing, some imperfect attempts have been made which were not perfectly successful; and hence the whole scheme has been condemned.

But why condemn it? Is it more improbable that this can be done than that cotton can be ginned by machinery—packed by machinery—picked by machinery—carded by machinery—spun by machinery, and woven by machinery? Of the two operations, supposing nothing of the kind had been done, we would rather undertake to accomplish the harvesting by machinery than the spinning, and yet the latter has far, very far outstripped the other. It seems, however, that the ingenious in many parts of the Union are at work at this business. The Editor of the Baltimore Farmer and Gardener some time since gave the following account of Hussey's Grain Cutter:

The Horse Mowing Machine.—We attended on Monday week last, by invitation, to witness the operation of the Horse Mowing Machine invented by Mr. Hussey, of Cincinnati, Ohio. The theatre selected for its operation was a field of oats, belonging to Dr. Hitch, situate in the northwestern part of our city, containing about six acres. The persons collected together to see this novel innovation upon old established customs were not numerous: with those, however, who did attend, the principle of curiosity was, as it was reasonable to expect it would be, actively alive; but it was soon destined to be arrested in its gratification; for after the enterprising *inventor* of the machine had twice made his way around the field, its owner stopped his further progress, urged to the adoption of his course, as we were informed, by the fear that a part of the company would injure his grain by following the implement, and from the circumstance of the stubble being cut too long. In common with those present, we regret that reasons sufficiently cogent existed in the opinion of the proprietor to produce the result we have mentioned, as the disappointment affected alike the inventor and those who at considerable trouble, under a scorching sun, had convened to witness the experiment. Contenting ourself with the remarks we have made with respect to the *cause* of the stopping of the work, we will make a passing observation or two in regard to the *work* itself. The machine was drawn by two horses, and mowed at a smart trot, cutting the grain as it went with considerable cleanliness, as much so, probably, as could have been done with cradles, with the exception, that the stubble, as we have before premised, was left too long, being about six inches in length; the inventor of the machine, however, assured us that he could have lowered the cutting knives to three inches. It may be but justice to observe that the field was rough and cloddy, and presented a very uneven surface to act upon, which may account in part for the height at which the knives were set. So far as our own opinion may be entitled to consideration, we believe the machine better adapted to level fields than broken ground, and we have no doubt at all that on the Eastern Shore of this state, in Eastern Virginia, and other portions of our country where grain is cultivated on *large even fields*, it would be found truly useful, and that it will be found an object with the wealthy proprietors of lands in those sections of country to procure one. It certainly cuts with great expedition, and we should suppose, from what we saw, that it would be able to mow twenty or twenty-five acres a day. Mr. Hussey assured us, that he had given great satisfaction to the members of the Agricultural Board of Talbot County, on the eastern shore of this state, before which body he had operated with his machine, and we sincerely trust this distinguished association may publish an account of his labors in that quarter, for from the intelligence and standing of its members their opinion will be held in high estimation in every quarter where correct information is duly appreciated.—*Maine Farmer.*

Sagacity of the Horse.—The Pennsylvania Sentinel relates the following anecdote of the sagacity, and, *humanity*, shall we call it? of the horse.

As the Germantown stage, drawn by four horses, was passing along Third street, above Willow, a small child endeavoured to cross the street in advance of the leaders, apparently without observing the dangerous proximity of the latter. One of the leading horses appeared to appreciate the situation of the infant, and made every effort to avoid coming in contact with it. He swerved from the direct line as far as he could, and endeavored to pass it, but being brought up by the rein, was forced against and prostrated the child. The instant the latter fell he stopped, as if to allow it to escape; but being driven forward by the hinder horses and the impetus of the vehicle, he reared himself on his hind legs, and with one bound cleared the body. In doing this, either from design or accident, he threw the child, with his hind foot, out of the track, so that when the heavy carrige passed on, it did not run over it, although it came within a few inches of it.—This may be instinct, but it looks to us marvellously like reason and feeling.

PRICES CURRENT.

ARTICLES.	Philadelphia, Dec. 14.	Baltimore. Dec. 12.	New York, Dec. 12.	Boston, Dec. 10.
Beans, white, per bush	$1 87—2 00	1 75—	1 45—1 87½	1 75—2 00
Beef, mess, new, per bbl	13 00–13 50	12 00–12 50	12 00–13 50	13 50–14 00
Bacon, western, per lb	11 13	10— 11½	.....	.....
Butter, extra, per tub	18— 19	.....	.....	.....
Butter, fresh, per lb. (market,)	25— 37	25— 37½	25— 40	30— 37½
Hams, Jersey, per lb	— 15	.....	14— 16	.....
Hog's Lard, per lb	.....	15— 16	16— 17	15— 15½
Cheese, American, per lb	10— 11	10— 11	8— 10	8— 12
Beeswax, yellow, per lb	27— 28	30—	27— 28	28— 30
Beeswax, white,	37— 39	40—	38— 40	38— 40
Bristles, American,	60— 70	.....	25— 65	30— 75
Flax, American,	9— 10	.....	8½— 9½	9— 12
Flour, best, per bbl	11 00—	10 50—	10 25–10 50	.....
GRAIN—Wheat, per bush. Penna	2 25—2 35	.....	2 00—2 10	—2 12½
do. Maryland,	1 90—2 00	1 30—2 05	1 50—1 75	.....
Rye, per bushel,	1 45—1 50	.....	1 20—1 25	.....
Corn, do	83— 85	78— 80	1 00—1 05	98—1 00
Oats, do	48— 55	44— 45	52— 62½	56— 60
Barley, do. Penn	90— 96	.....	81— 82	.....
Peas do	.....	1 12½—	1 00 1 06	.....
HAY, Timothy, per 100 lbs	1 00—1 10	.....	1 10—1 50	.....
Meadow Grass,	90— 95	.....	.....	.....
Hemp, American dry rot, ton,	175 00–	120 00–140	130 00–140	.....
Hops, first sort, 1836, lb	11— 12	.....	.....	.....
Plaster Paris, per ton,	4 75	3 00—3 25	—3 25	3 25—3 50
SEEDS—Cloverseed, per bushel,	6 00—7 00	7 50—	.....	.....
Flaxseed, rough, do	1 84—1 86	1 50—	1 65—1 75	—1 50
Timothy,	2 25—2 75	3 00—3 50	2 25—2 50	2 75—3 25
Tallow, per lb	9½— 10	— 8½	— 9¼	9— 9½
WOOL—Saxony, fleece, per lb	68— 75	55— 68	75— 80	85—1 30
Merino,	60— 67½	48— 55	50— 68	65— 70
1-4 and common,	40— 44	36— 40	25— 40	50— 55

Remarks.

No important variation in the price of articles during the last fortnight—staple articles all firm at former prices. COTTON of a good quality is in demand; stock nearly exhausted; sales of Upland at 19 a 20 7-8 cents. A small quantity of Tennessee Cotton, received by way of Pennsylvania canals and rail-ways, sold at 17½ to 18 cents per lb. The FLOUR and MEAL market remains at our last quotations. Receipts light, and demand limited to home use, at $11 per barrel for good brands; Genesee, $11. Considerable sales of sour New-Orleans at $7 to $7,50.—Rye Flour is scarce, and sells at $7,50 per barrel. Corn Meal—sales of several hundred hhds at $19, and Brandywine $20 each. Further sales in bbls, at $4,56½ each. Buckwheat Meal—sales in hf. bbls at $4,37½. GRAIN—WHEAT continues in demand; sales of good Ohio, via New-York canals, $2,40 per bushel; Pennsylvania, $2,25 to $2,35; southern, new crop, $2,20. *Rye*—Further sales of Odessa at $1,50 a $1,48. Some Southern, $1,25. *Corn* is very dull, and several cargoes of old and new Southern are afloat unsold. Sales of Pennsylvania from store at 95 a 93cts., flat yellow 88cts. afloat. A sale of superior white in store at 87cts. *Oats*—cargo sales of Southern at 49 a 48 1-2 cts. Beans—sales of 2 a 300 bushels of Southern white, at $1,80 a $2 per bushel. HEMP—No change in prices. PROVISIONS—Stock of Mess Pork very scanty. Killed Pork from wagons sells at $8,25 a $8,75 per 100 lbs. Butter and Lard are in limited demand at former prices. Cheese is in steady demand at 10 1-4 to 11 cents per lb. SEEDS—Sales of several lots Cloverseed at $6 to $7 per bushel for common to prime quality. Sales of Flaxseed at $1,84 a $1,95; one lot of 270 bushels from Albany at $1,86 per bushel. WOOL—The demand limited, and prices unchanged.

The CATTLE MARKET is well supplied, and at about former rates, as we learn that no essential variation has occurred in prices. All kinds of country produce in demand, and at prices amply remunerating the owners.